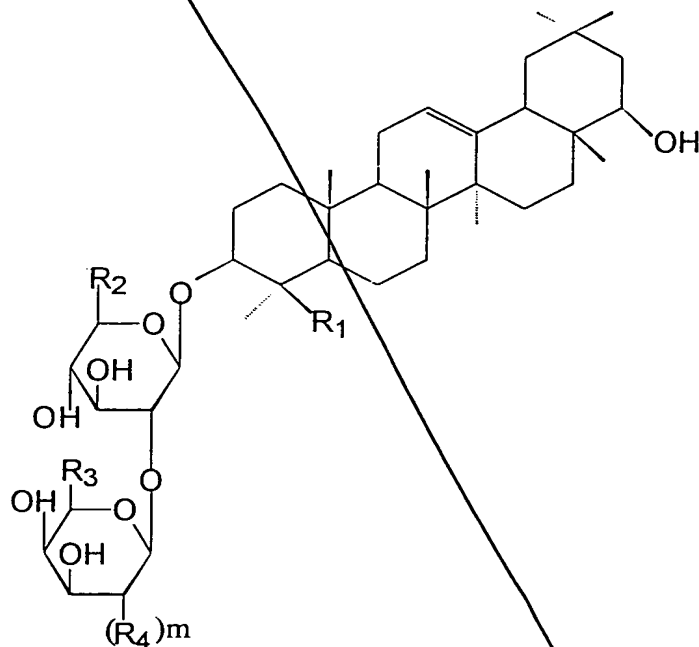


SAPONIN DERIVATIVES FOR INHIBITION
SIALYLTRANSFERASE ACTIVITY AND BIOSYNTHESIS OF
SIALOGLYCOCONJUGATE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

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The invention provides the use of the saponin derivatives, which is of the general formula (I) or the pharmaceutically acceptable salts and esters thereof:



wherein

R_1 is hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, or C_{1-8} alkylhydroxy;

R_2 is hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, C_{2-6} alkenyl, C_{2-6} alkynyl, $COOH$, $COOC_{1-8}alkyl$;

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R_3 is C_{1-8} alkylhydroxy, hydrogen, C_{1-8} alkyl, C2-6 alkenyl or C_{2-6} alkynyl;

R_4 is a sugar residue; and

m is 0, 1, 2 or 3;

- 5 and pharmaceutically acceptable carriers, as well as the use of such pharmaceutical composition in the inhibition of sialyltransferases.

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